

VZCZCXR05515

PP RUEHBZ RUEHDU RUEHGI RUEHJO RUEHMR RUEHRN  
DE RUEHKI #1931 3621305  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 281305Z DEC 06  
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5355  
INFO RUEHXR/RWANDA COLLECTIVE  
RUCNSAD/SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC  
RHMFISI HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE  
RUFOADA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK

UNCLAS KINSHASA 001931

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: MOPS KPKO CG  
SUBJECT: ITURI UPDATE: FARDC TAKES BACK JUBA TERRITORY  
POSTS

REF: KINSHASA 1922

¶1. (SBU) FARDC forces reportedly took back all Juba territory FARDC posts attacked by Peter Karim's FNI on December 24 (reftel). By the morning of December 26, the FARDC posts near the towns of Fataki, Djugu, and Bulle were recaptured, according to MONUC sources. However, FNI forces attacked the FARDC Fataki camp later that afternoon, and fighting continued there on December 27. Local sources reported that FARDC forces had also retaken the nearby towns, but this has not been confirmed by MONUC. MONUC confirmed that FARDC suffered 19 casualties in the fighting, and the FNI took 15 FARDC troops hostage. The number of casualties among the FNI is not known.

¶2. (SBU) FNI leader Peter Karim requested talks with MONUC on December 27. MONUC officers reportedly told him such talks would be possible only if the FNI stopped fighting and released all FARDC hostages. A visiting GDRC delegation headed by Vice Minister of Defense Bernard Mena is set to hold a meeting with Karim on December 28. According to MONUC, Karim has agreed to release three FARDC hostages prior to the meeting.  
DOUGHERTY